

**Office of the Commander  
Task Force Marne  
Tikrit, Iraq**



**September 11, 2010**

**To the Firefighters of the Loudon County Fire Department:**

**On behalf of the nearly 10,000 Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines of United States Division – North deployed to the seven Iraqi provinces north of Baghdad, I want to thank you for all that you do for the greater good. On a daily basis you maintain vigilance throughout the long watch until the crisis comes, when you routinely demonstrate tremendous skill and bravery – sometimes at great cost. Here in northern Iraq, we have tremendous respect for such dedication and recognize a kinship of service.**

**On a personal note, as one who was at the Pentagon nine years ago, I will never forget the tremendous work done by firefighters and first responders that day. It will always remain one of the redeeming memories of that awful day of sorrow...a demonstration of the best of what we can be, made necessary by a reprehensible act of the very worst that humanity can summon. The work done by our brothers and sisters in your department then continues to inspire us in our fight now.**

**Thanks for all that you do!**

**ROCK OF THE MARNE!**

**Very Respectfully,**

**Anthony A. Cucolo III  
Major General, US Army  
Commanding**

**Chief W. Keith Brower, Jr.  
Loudon County Fire, Rescue and Emergency Management Department  
803 Sycolin Road,  
Suite 104, Mailstop #61  
Leesburg VA 20175**